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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,728	07/17/2003	Pedro Lamartine de Faria	17945	1583
26794	7590	05/07/2004	EXAMINER	
TYCO ELECTRONICS CORPORATION 4550 NEW LINDEN HILL ROAD, SUITE 450 WILMINGTON, DE 19808			FIGUEROA, FELIX O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2833	

DATE MAILED: 05/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/621,728	Applicant(s) DE FARIA ET AL.	
	Examiner Felix O. Figueroa	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 July 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/05/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "comprising" and "said," should be avoided.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: In page 2 line 22, "130" should be --140--. In page 8, "an-a" should be --arm--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because they have elements shown in cross section which are not properly crosshatched. Insulating members shown in cross section should be properly crosshatched. See Figures 4 and 7. It is brought to applicant's attention that the conventional crosshatch for insulating members shown in cross section consist of lines of two different thicknesses alternatively disposed.



Correction is required.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(h)(1). When an exploded view is shown in a figure which is on the same sheet as another figure, the exploded view should be placed in brackets. See Figure 4.

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). Please note that while the specification describes the connectors 410 and 430 to be movable after the ridges 428 and 448 engage each other, the headers shown in Figure 4 do not appear that movable

after the ridges 428 and 448 are engaged. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. MPEP § 608.02(d).

A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claims 4, 10 and 18 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 4 line 2, "the first ridge" and "the second ridge" lack antecedent basis. In line 3, "an-n" should be --arm--.

While claim 10 recites "a stop for preventing the retention arm from passing through the opening", it is noted that the present invention requires that at least part of the retention arm be passed through the opening, thus making the claim indefinite.

In claim 18 line5, "1 5" should be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 5-7 and 10-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Matsuoka (US 5,443,404).

Matsuoka discloses a connector assembly comprising: a first housing (2) having a retention arm (11); and a second housing (2) having an opening (9) for receiving the retention arm, wherein the retention arm is mounted in the opening and the first housing and the second housing are moveably connected.

Regarding claim 2, Matsuoka discloses the first housing and the second housing being moveably connected in a longitudinal direction.

Regarding claim 3, Matsuoka discloses the first housing including a first rib (8a) proximate a terminating end of the retention arm, and the second housing including a second rib (8b) within the opening, wherein the first rib and the second rib engage one another to hold the retention arm in the opening.

Claims 1-6 and 18-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaley (US 4,580,861).

Kaley discloses a connector assembly comprising: a first housing (10) having a retention arm (14); and a second housing (10) having an opening (15) for receiving the retention arm, wherein the retention arm is mounted in the opening and the first housing and the second housing are moveably connected.

Regarding claim 2, Kaley shows the first housing and the second housing are moveably connected in a longitudinal direction (Fig.6).

Regarding claim 3, Kaley shows the first housing includes a first rib (at 27) proximate a terminating end of the retention arm, and the second housing includes a second rib (16) within the opening, wherein the first rib and the second rib engage one another to hold the retention arm in the opening.

Regarding claim 4, Kaley shows the retention arm can move longitudinally within the opening from a point where the first ridge and the second ridge engage to a point where the retention arm abuts an end of the opening.

Regarding claim 5, Kaley discloses the first housing and the second housing have an upper side.

Regarding claim 6, Kaley discloses the housings including contact pins (col.1, line 26).

Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 11-13 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Weber et al. (US 4,790,763).

Weber discloses connector assembly comprising: a first housing (F) having a retention arm (26); and a second housing (E) having an opening (at 46) for receiving the retention arm, wherein the retention arm is mounted in the opening and the first housing and the second housing are moveably connected.

Regarding claim 3, Weber discloses the first housing including a first rib (at 34) proximate a terminating end of the retention arm, and the second housing including a second rib (at 50) within the opening, wherein the first rib and the second rib engage one another to hold the retention arm in the opening.

Regarding claim 7, Weber discloses the lower side of the housing including guide pins (12).

Regarding claim 8, Weber discloses the second housing further includes a guide (22,42) for aligning the first housing and the second housing.

Regarding claim 9, Weber discloses a guide (22) for aligning the first housing and the second housing.

Regarding claim 11, Weber discloses a plurality of retention arms and openings (see Fig.2).

Regarding claim 12, Weber discloses an adjustable pin header assembly comprising at least one first header (F) having an upper side for receiving periphery, a lower side having contact pins (70) extending therefrom in alignment with corresponding vias in a PCB, and a female connection mechanism (28), and at least one second header (E) having an upper side for receiving periphery, a lower side having contact pins extending therefrom in alignment with corresponding vias in the PCB, and a male connection mechanism (48), wherein the at least one second header is secured to the at least one first header by mounting the male connection mechanism in the female connection mechanism.

Regarding claims 13 and 17, Weber discloses the at least one first header and the at least one second header being moveable longitudinally with respect to one another. Please note that the headers can move with respect to each other when they are not connected to each other.

Conclusion


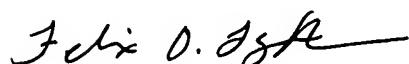
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Grabbe et al. (US 4,550,959), Okabe et al. (US 6,332,813), Rei et al. (US 5,295,870) and Sato (US 6,343,959) disclose connector housings that are connected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-2003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 10:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ffr



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